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The New Federalism.

Mr. JAMES R. GARFIELD, the Commissioner of Corporations, in the first report of that new department of the Federal Government, discloses frankly that he holds an able brief in the interests of Centralization.

He would have all corporations doing an interstate business compelled to do so under a Federal franchise.

Mr. GARFIELD presents his case lucidly and dispassionately, with every evidence of intelligent research and with no apparent endeavor to disguise his attorneylike attitude toward the whole question. His argument is eminently plausible. it accords with the manifest tendency of the times, and on that very account it is necessary to treat it seriously.

It is therefore a distinct relief in discussing the subject to reflect that, however attractive such a proposal may be, and in whatsoever degree it may harhour, its adoption and enactment by the Congress of the United States are improbable. Indeed, the Congress could with equal reason declare and create a limited monarchy and call on the people to choose their first King.

We do not know how in simple and engaging guise there could be framed another measure so subversive of our whole theory and principle of government. What would become of the sovereignty of the States? What pretence could be alleged of its continued existence? How long would it be possible for us to recognize ourselves as the United States of America? Should we not at once become the State of America, with we were an aggregation of zemstvos?

It is impossible to suspect Mr. GAR-FIELD of an ulterior or a deftly concealed purpose. He does not want to destroy corporations and eliminate them forless, does he not obviously propose that individuals may usurp all the rights and privileges now enjoyed by corporations and in their single capacity or as firms do an unrestricted interstate business from which collective capital is prohibited?

Mr. GARFIELD may hold that this is only a detail; but we assure him that if he will ponder it in the light of the counsel of the other side he will find that it is a detail of ominous dimensions.

The most alluring aspect of Mr. GAR-FIELD's proposition is that which seems to imply that it would operate to the benefit of property, inasmuch as the Federal Government cannot, we presume, issue its license to a corporation without at the same time guaranteeing to its beneficiary an adequate degree of protection. The stockholders and investors generally would like to make the experiment of a Government oversight of their interfor them as well as for the masses. The proposal, probably, is not to abolish property rights as they are described and understood under the Constitution. although we seem to recall a disturbing utterance on this subject from a higher authority than Mr. GARFIELD.

We can understand very well that the vast army of men and women whose means of life are derived from shares in corporations and who have suffered sorely from corporate malfeasance and dishonesty would gladly welcome the interference of any power that promised to add to their security. We can believe, too, that they would grasp at it without any too careful scrutiny of its nature. But the remedy which Mr. GAR-FIELD holds out to them is an ignis fatuus which they may grasp only after the Congress has consented to burn the Constitution of the United States.

The Raines Law.

Since 1896, when the present Liquor Tax law of the State of New York was enacted, each December has seen the beginning of an agitation for its repeal or radical amendment. Sometimes the outery has been raised by the saloon owners and sometimes by enemies of the saloon or apostles of moral purity. But whatever the motives of the enemies of the law, the outcome of their efforts has always been the same—the statute has remained essentially unaltered from

its original form. This year the annual attack on the Liquer Tax law has begun fiercely, and the leaders of it are known as watchmen over the public morals. They call the law the father and mother of iniquity, the parent of sin. Reading their denunciations, a man uninformed as to the provisions of the statute would suppose that in precise terms it legalized every conceivable vice, put a premium on crime and rewarded every violation of the

Now, it is true that under the Liquor

Tax law certain disreputable resorts exist, but they exist in spite of its provisions and in violation of them. Nor are such resorts more numerous now then they were in 1890. Rather, they are proportionately fewer in number. They exist now because the much abused Liquor Tax law and the Penal Code are not enforced. There is law enough to close every improper establishment in the State. The real quarrel of those who denounce the Liquor Tax law, therefore, is with the authorities who neglect

to enforce it, and not with the law itself. The fact is that never since 1896 have the various departments of the State and municipal governments charged with the execution of this statute cooperated in any honest, sincere attempt to put all of its provisions in force. The average citizen does not know what its provisions are, or how they have been construed by the courts.

If for six months the authorities would make a real effort to enforce the law, its many admirable features would become known, and talk of repealing it as a whole, or amending it radically, would never be heard again except from saloon reepers and would-be proprietors of disorderly resorts.

Russian and Japanese Squadrons. It was expected that many of the problems in naval warfare would find solutions during the present war in the Far East, but actually they seem to remain as

unsettled as ever. The fight off Port Arthur on Aug. 10 practically settled the fate of the Russian Pacific squadron, but it determined nothing as to the military value of the Russian ships, for the scattering of the squadron after a brief action was caused by the chance shot that blew the Russian commander to pieces and left it without direction, the Admiral who succeeded to the command having completely lost

It was simply a case, of which there have been so many during the war, of radical monize with the passing agitation of the defects in the higher commands. Up to the moment that Admiral WITTSOEFT was killed the manœuvring of the Russian squadron was intelligently designed and skilfully executed; after that all was chaos and the value of the ships as fighting machines remained undetermined.

If the reports that Admiral KAMIMURA is on his way to meet the Baltic squadron are correct, there is a chance that there may be an action from which some valuable deductions may be drawn. It is possible that if the Japanese squadron, which will naturally be composed of the fastest ships of the fleet, does not catch the weaker division of the Baltic squadron before it can effect its junction with the battleship division, it will confine itself to harassing the enemy and "nursing him, in the way the fast-sailing frigates no more pretence to a Constitution than if of Nelson's time were employed, until the point is reached at which the Japanese Admiral may have determined to bring matters to an issue.

The estimates that have been made of the fighting value of the two squadrons. assuming both to be in efficient condiever from the body politic. Neverthe- tion and in full strength, give the Japanese an advantage of five to three, the quality and morale of the equipages being included in the calculations. The conclusion indicated by this is that the Russians are going on a forlorn hope and can only add fresh disasters already incurred by the Czar's navy.

Should the two squadrons come into contact in the Indian Ocean, the engagement may go far to solve the question of the extent to which fighting fleets can rely on the newly improvised methods of coaling at sea in war time. The value of the swift cruiser acting like a hawk on a heterogeneous assemblage of ships such as the Baltic squadron is should also be demonstrated, and afford valuable points in the discussion of tactics and the composition of squadrons.

Reform in the Navy Needed.

We have received a letter in which is exposed a deplorable condition of our navy as concerns many, and indeed most. of its officers. This communication is ests. It ought to amount to something the more important because it comes from within the navy itself and represents the views and records the experiences of the ablest and most ambitious officers of that service.

Heretofore we have avoided criticism of the navy, though the provocations to it for several years past have been frequent and glaring; but now it may properly be made on the strength of the facts brought to view by this distinguished officer.

The American navy has been the pride of our people from the earliest days of the republic, and by its achievements it has reflected glory on this nation. In all times of peace there has been dis-played by the people, or by a large part of them, dread and jealousy of a standing army. When the vast armies called into service by the awful exigency of civil war were disbanded that feeling prevented the preservation of more than a slender Regular force. After the war with Spain and because of insurrection in the Philippines and the necessity of their military occupation some increase was made in the army, but even then the United States was left with by far the smallest military establishment of any considerable Power of the world.

Of the navy, however, there was never any popular jealousy, and especially since 1881 our navy, supported by liberal appropriations by Congress, has been steadily and greatly strengthened. For sixteen years after the civil war it had been suffered to fall into a decline which sorely vexed the pride of naval officers compelled to sail on vessels that made a somewhat contemptible show beside the ships of even inferior Powers; but when at last Congress was awakened to that disgraceful condition the building of a new and an adequate American navy began, and it still continues on an imposing scale. The Secretary of the Navy now asks for appropriations aggregating about a hundred and thirteen millions of dollars to continue that progress and give to us assuredly and emphatically the second place, or the place after Great Britain, among the great naval Powers of the world. This enormous sum is not begrudged by the

during the later years Congress has represented and shared their pride in the American navy, and they sustain the President in his efforts for its still further

and signal increase and improvement. Even if we have the ships, however, the navy can never fitly represent the power and the ambition of the American people unless those ships are commanded, navigated and served generally by officers in all ways typical of the best and highest American development. Are our naval officers entitled to be so regarded? Undoubtedly a minority of them deserve the fullest confidence of the American people, but of recent years, more especially, there have been incidents in our naval experience which have created and justified grave and widespread doubts of much of the personnel of the service. Ships have been lost, run aground and subjected to serious dangers, involving also loss of life among the crews, in a succession so continuous and under circumstances so suggestive of official incompetence that some rottenness in the system is reasonably suspected. Catastrophes have been described as "accidents" and have gone unpunished, or been only slightly reprobated, but seafaring men generally have been inclined to give to them a more disgraceful name.

In an adjoining column we give extracts from the letter of the competent naval correspondent to which we have referred, for his communication is too much loaded with technical details to admit of our printing the whole of it. It will be seen that he justifies the widespread suspicion of grave delinquency in the navy and calls for a remedy by the introduction of new and drastic reform in the methods for the promotion of officers, so that these shall be competent for the command of vessels of war. In essence, his method is commended by the President in his message to Congress and also in the report of the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation of the Navy.

Obviously the examples of negligence and inefficiency to which we have referred call loudly for some radical method of reform, for it is not exaggeration to speak of some of them as scandalous. The dead wood of the service must be cut away in order to preserve the sound.

More Men Than Women in the World. The opinion is expressed in the latest pulletin of the Census Bureau that in the total population of the world there are several million more men than women. It is true that, in Europe there are more emales than males, but the men predominate in every other continent, as far as the population is counted with distinction of sex; and the same rule is believed to hold good in the large regions where the population can only be estimated.

In our own country the excess of males is greater than in any other land where it is known to exfst. In our continental domain there are 1.638,321 more males than females. In other words, for every 100 females in the land there are about 102 males. The assumption is that the frequent wars in Europe or in the over-sea possessions of the European States may have something to do with the slight predominance of women in Europe, as contrasted with the United States

The reasons are obvious why in our mining, grazing and other thinly settled Probably one of the important reasons why this is also the case in many of our Western cities is that many young men go to them from the East or from foreign countries to establish themselves in business before they think of marrying. In our Eastern cities, however, the preponderance of the female population is so large that in the 1.861 cities of the Union which in 1900 had at least 2,500 inhabitants each, there were 201,959 more females than males: and the tendency in our cities is still toward further increase in the excess of women. In the eastern part of the country this is believed to be due chiefly to the large opportunities for women in the factory towns.

The bulletin gives two curious bits of information and in one instance ungraciously intimates that the vanity of some of the fair sex results in a slight inaccuracy in the census returns. At two periods of life the number of women is reported to be greater than that of men. One of these periods is in the decade between the ages of 16 and 25 years, but we are informed that the predominance of the female sex at this time of life is more apparent than real. So delicate a subject should be treated with great | in the intimacy of a wardroom mess. Abildiscretion: and it is enough to make one distrust the evidence of his own eves till he has read at least two or three times the bald statement of this grave official publication that many women claim to

belong to that age period who really have passed beyond it. The other period in which women surpass men in numbers in this country is from about 83 years of age to the end of life. It is well known that for a large part of their lives women are regarded by insurance companies as a less desirable risk than men; but the fact is also generally accepted that after reaching an advanced age a woman's prospects of attaining further years are rather better than those of a man. This is supposed to be due to the fact that; on the whole, the stress and battle of life usually rests rather more heavily on the shoulders of the man.

Turning to our exterior possessions, we are informed that in Alaska and Hawaii about seven persons in ten are males, due in Alaska to the rush to the mining fields and in Hawaii to the large immigration of male labor. On the other hand. the female sex is somewhat more numerous than the male sex in Porto Rico while there is a large prependerance of males in Manila, with somewhat shaky evidence that they predominate throughout the Philippines. It is quite certain that if all the men under the American flag were looking for wives some would have to go abroad for them.

The Bress of Sport.

From the Humanitarian The whole idea of sport is ugly, cruel and ridicu-lous. The clothes worn are hideous and disfigur-ing, and render the user of them a cross between a Levantine hotel tout and an old time pifferero.

A man who deliberately dresses up like a jackanapes, and thus makes litmself abourd, is a national American people. They rejoice that asset of no giget value.

OUR NAVY AND ITS OFFICERS.

Naval Officer on Incompetency and effectency in Its Personnel

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The retically, all military men are serving their country—undergoing the hardships of the sea and of the camp for the honor and glory of the flag. As a matter of fact, this is far from being universally true in time of peace, and frequently not even in time of war. Generally speaking, officers are in the service because they want to be there, and it is the exceptional man who habitually sacrifices his personal inclinations and comfort for the abstraction popularly known as "the good of the service."

For the average man it is a comfortable reflection that he will steadily advance from grade to grade, in spite of a considerable legree of indolence, ignorance and indifference, that he will reach flag rank if he keeps on living and refrains from striking his

superior officer. The theory is that the unfit will be weeded out by a strict examination for promotion, but we all know that this is a theory onlythat the examinations in most grades are practically a farce, that officers who are notoriously, not to say scandalously, unworthy of promotion are promoted all the same and given responsible commands. This state of affairs is known to every officer and man in the navy. It applies in the case of officers whose grotesque incompetence forms the subject of ridicule throughout the entire service and whose ignorance and stupidity are by-words in forecastle messes. We can all mention the names of officers who have reached the higher grades after long careers who have been not only notoriously and ludicrously incompetent, but have actually been of pernicious influence in all the positions occupied by them.

Lieutenant-Commander Knowgood comes up for examination for promotion before Rear Admiral Brainy and Capts. Cleverer and Crackajack. \ Knowgood's reports are worse than indifferent, and his examination papers would be funny if they were not pahetic. He is as broad as he is long and wheezes like a leaky bellows. He has a general reputation for good-natured but practically total incompetence. Admiral Brainy looks very grave. Knowgcod's mother is a daughter of old Admiral Crackon. He married a daughter of so and so and has four children.

Two courses only are open to the board. namely, (1) either to promote the candidate to the responsible grade of commander, or, (2) to reject him and leave him entirely without means of support at an age of forty-odd and after twenty-five years service-for such is the law. The Admiral and the two Captains, all good men and true, know in their hearts what would oe" for the interests of the service"-but that s not what is in their hearts just then; it s the faithful little mother in the cheap boarding house and her wee babes that perhaps have climbed on the Admiral's nee and pulled his whiskers many a time. Needless to say, patient old Uncle Sam makes one more bad bargain, the wife and children are promoted and Knowgood is congratulated by the board-with averted yes and limp handshakes.

The usual history of the subsequent experience of Capt. Knowgood affoat is about as follows: Commands the cruiser Taddleyaddly and bumps the bottom several times. court-martial-verdict, error of judgment Most of his men desert-cause, bad element on board. His officers worry the Depart. ment trying to get detached. Discipline slack, crew inefficient, target practice bad. Commands the battleship Pricklyheat. Won't go within a hundred miles of a shoal Heel-and-toe watches for all hands in port Half of the officers under suspension for making a noise on the quarter deck before A. M. Nerves all gone-can hear a fly walking on the poop. Lives practically on medicine.

Lieutenant-Commander Nifty is the next Trig, energetic, comp tent and athletic. Excellent reports of splendid examination papers, fine reputation in the service. Passes with flying colors and is heartily congratulated by the members of the board, who "hope to be shipmates". with him. His subsequent history is that of brilliant success. Officers scramble for duty on his ship. The men swear by him, and all hands are proud of the "old man."

Suppose Congress turns the system end for end, suppose that instead of making it the duty of the board to throw an inefficient candidate out to starve when he reaches the head of his grade it were its duty to select for promotion the best men in that grade. It would then become a board of awards instead of a board of punishments, and all the natural forces would be working with us. The Niftys would be gladly singled out and promoted, and the Knowgoods would remain behind until they had reached a certain age, when they would retirebefore they had reached a command grade where they could do so much damage to the efficiency of the service.

The service knows who the Niftys are, and a perfectly practicable system based on the recommendation of those who have served with and know the candidates would be a just one. You never really know a man until you have made a cruise with him ity is at once recognized in the service, and it is highly respected. Give a Navy Register to each of a dozen officers and let them mark the names of those who are universally recognized as able men, and you will find on comparing the lists that there is a sur prising unanimity of opinion.

Why is it that much of the excellent material from Annapolis becomes worthless for all military purposes by the end of fifteen or twenty years? Simply because it is not stimulated by the hope of reward or the fear of failure. The brains, muscles and vital organs of many of these fine young men deteriorate through disuse. When an entirely perfunctory performance of duty brings exactly the same advancement as the most strenuous and useful work it cannot be expected that the majority will abor for the abstract benefit of the service. though there are many brilliant exceptions. those who are by nature contented only when doing useful work. All too frequently the result is gray hairs that are but a kind of fungus springing from a disused brain and which command no measure

of proper respect.

In all walks of life except the American navy men compete for their positions and their reputations. We all know what competition has done in the way of gunnery training and the development of ordnance Give the personnel the same stimulant, and officers will work to improve their minds and their bodies, as they now work to im-

prove their guns and gun crews. The capable officers of the navy-neces sarily always the small minority-earnestly demand such a reform in our present stupidly dangerous system of promotion. NAVY REFORM.

Fame Is Smoke.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Who said that fame was ephemeral? Here in Camden, where naught is remembered of the "Good Gray Poet" but his patriarchal whiskers, a new brand of cigars appears in the windows with this legend beneat his frost framed phiz: "Smoke the Walt Whitman Pure Leaf:" Maybe made of "Leaves of Grass. CHARLES L. MCKEONE.

CAMDEN N J. Dec. 23.

IT'S A CLUB FOR JEROME. Grand Jury Testimony May Induce a Change

of Heart Toward His Liquor Bill. District Attorney Jerome refused again yesterday to make public the evidence on which was based the presentment of the Grand Jury that the Liquor Dealers' Association of the State raised a large fund last winter to bribe Legislators at Albany and that a large part of it was expended upon various members of the Senate and Assembly "in an appalling and shocking way." Some of the boodle was used to influence the official action of one of the State departments. Mr. Jerome says it rests with the incoming Legislature and the new Governor whether the evidence

should be given to the public. Mr. Jerome, as is well known, is deeply interested in excise reform. For several years he has been urging an amendment to the Raines law allowing saloons to do to the Raines law allowing saloons to do business on Sundays in other than church hours and also after 1 o'clock in the morning under restrictions which would insure the preservation of the peace. He feels that in to other way can the corruption and abuses which have sprung up under the present system be wiped out. Twice he has presented his ideas on the subject to the Legislature and twice he has been met with what is vulgarly known as the "merry ha ha" for his pains.

The opinion was expressed yesterday by

The opinion was expressed yesterday by politicians who have followed Mr. Jerome's politicians who have followed Mr. Jerome's acts closely that the presentment made by the Grand Jury has changed the situation decidedly as far as Mr. Jerome is concerned. He now has a weapon in his hands which may cause the majority at Albany to change its mind as to the advisability of amending the Raines law in conformity with the District Attorney's views.

The presentment, it is understood, contains the names of the Senators and Assemblymen to whom, as witnesses before the Grand Jury testified, money was paid from the iquor dealers' fund.

The officials of the Liquor Dealers' Association spent yesterday in dodging re-

The officials of the Liquor Designs association spent yesterday in dodging reporters. It was learned, however, that Mr. Jerome has also possession of the books of the organization, and they contain many highly interesting and significant entries.

Depew's Senatorial Strength.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: doubtful if there is any other man in the United States Senate who has developed so Senatorial strength in his first term as has Chauncey M. Depew.

In the short space of six years Senator Depew has been made a member of three of the most important committees, namely, Commerce, Judiciary and Privileges and Elections. These positions have been awarded him on account of his high reputation and influence, and through them he has been enabled to do much good work for his State. Of course, a new Senator of less influential connections in business and public life, and with a shorter record of efficient service to his party and his State, would not receive such appointments, and the State would not be so fully represented in these most important branches of legislation.

Further, Senator Depew has spoken from his place in the Senate on every important question of public policy, always to the point and in the best interests not only of his State, but of the nation.

On every public question that has arisen since Mr. Depew was first nominated for the Assembly of the State of New York, from the veranda of the old Palmer House at Yorksown, N. Y., forty-three years ago, he has been true to his principles and sound to the

As the intimate friend of Presidents Lincoln. Grant. Haves, Garfield, Arthur, Harrison, McKinley and Roosevelt, Senator Depew has continuously held, and still holds, a high and honored place in the councils of his party. In fact, ever since Fremont's time he has known, in the closest friendship, every Republican leader of importance.

In the vigor of manhood, with forty-three years of the richest kind of public experience behind him, with a humanity as broad as his experience, with the trust and confidence of his parry, with the love and respect of the people of his State and of the nation, irrespective of political party, why should not Senator Depew succeed himself

WALTER J. BALLARD. SCHENECTADY, Dec. 22.

Antiquity of the Cape Cod Canal Project. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: We been very much interested in this part of the country in your recent article on the Cape Cod Canal. As you truly say, it is a most venerable project, but it is even more reperable than you imagine. One hundred years is mere youth to this ancient worthy, I beg your indulgence to quote from Jedediah Morse's "American Geography," published at Elizabethtown, N. J., in 1789, where on page 169, he writes interestingly on this cheme, thus:

The only capes of note on the coast of Massachysetts are Cape Ann, on the north side of Boston Bay and Cape Cod, on the south. The latter is the termi nating hook of a promontory which extends far into the sea, and is remarkable for having been the first land which was made by the first settlers of Plymouth on the American coast in 1620. In the rb of the hook which is made by the cape is Cap Cod Harbour; this promontory elecumscribes Barn-stable Bay and forms Barnstable county. This county is almost an island. The isthmus connects it with the continent is between Sandwic Bay, on the north, and Buzzard's Bay, on the The distance between them is but six or seven

Herring Brook almost crosses this neck or isthmus, so that a canal of about one mile only would insulate the county and save several hundred miles of dangerous navigation in passing from Newport to Boston, and be otherwise of immense advantage to trade. Such a canal has been talked for more than one hundred years past.

Kindly note that the italics are Jedediah's not mine, and it was evident that our worths ancestors of that date were even then afraid of being talked to death on this then ancient scheme. That was 115 years ago, and this industry" was evidently along on the second century of its comfort. OLIVER S. HAWES. FALL RIVER, Dec. 22.

College Rumanism.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: College hazing is no more respectable than negro lynching. has frequently resulted in practical lynching, me frequently still in the shattering of the health of its ictim beyond cure. It is an essentially brutal an

It is called a "custom." It is the same sort of a custom as lynching an unprotected negro. would be bad enough if perpetrated outside Inside, it undermines the spirit of law seeping at a time when every influence she brought to bear upon the unformed nature to in-culcate respect for law and for the sacred persons of others. The lesson of lawlessness, learned at college, in this way is never forgotten. Young Gould stood on his sacred natural right of self-defence. The men who pursued him were

Unless college authorities take hold of this matter and root out from their curricula this course is ruffianism known as "haxing" (and as well defined a part as Latin or Greek), the sooner there otheds of anarchy are put out of con oner will be broken a strong link in the chair hich still binds the world to barbarism The wilter of this is college bred and knows whereof he speaks.

LEX SCRIPTA. whereof he speaks.

CRANFORD, N. J., Dec. 22. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Do we sent

our sons to college to graduate as bullies and hood-lums? What can be more cowardly than for the elder—the sophomore—to terrorize and torture the younger, the freshman? Why is not this relie m prevented? not but sympathise with the lad gently nurtured who resents in any way such assaults assaults that may lead to death. What more natural than that he should defend himself? In there no redress, no remedy for this savage initial. tion to college life?

ion to college liter

Hazing should be considered a crime, and so pun
shed.

WILLIAM HALSTED CRANE. NEW YORK, Dec. 28.

Her Last Trip.

The Lady of Shalott was drifting down the river her barge.
"Evidently," they cried, "Tennyson has neglected to in spect the vessel before he put her on it."

This is the true tale of the hapless end of her

HELP IN SUBWAY SIGN FIGHT. Pallas Case May Be Strong Point in Ridding the Tunnel of Ads.

THE THOMAS IN AN AREA TOURS A STREET THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF THE

Members of the Municipal Art Societ and others who have interested themselves in ridding the subway of advertisements have been greatly encouraged by the Pallas decision, in which the courts ordered the advertisements off the fences surrounding

the new public library.

They believe that this decision, showing as it did that the advertisements had no right on city property, makes it incumbent on the city authorities to at once ask the courts for a similar order removing the

courts for a similar order removing the signs in the subway. The Rapid Transit board, after first ordering them out, now proposes to let them remain.

Whether Mayor McClellan and the Corporation Counsel will decide to act under this decision remains to be seen. If an action by the city is not started within a reasonable time, John DeWitt Warner said vestarday, a tayroavaria with like Mr. yesterday, a taxpayer's suit, like l Tomkins's in the Pallas case, would

brought undoubtedly.

"The decision in the Pallas suit," said
Mr. Warner, "is a victory for decency, and
it leaves no excuse for the city officials to
delay a suit which would clear the subway

"In the Pallas case an officer of the city made a contract expressly giving the right to put up advertisements. This right was defended in the courts when attacked by a taxpayer. In the case of the subway ad-vertisements the Rapid Transit Commisverusements the Rapid Transit Commission didn't make any contract, and the counsel of the board has in a written opinion declared that the advertising rights claimed by the company are not derived by contract, but simply as a right incidental to the right to operate the road.

"Should a targayer bring a suit similar

the right to operate the road.

"Should a taxpayer bring a suit similar to the Pallas one, the commission would reply probably that there was no contract and it wouldn't help a taxpayer much to bring suit to prevent a contract which was never made. On the other hand the Corporation Counsel, as the natural guardian of the citral signer. dian of the city's rights, could bring an action to have the signs removed from city

The Pallas decision would have a bear "The Pallas decision would have a bearing by analogy rather than precedent. In the Pallas case the court decided that putting the advertisements on the fence was not incidental to the maintenance of parks. We believe that the Court would likewice decide that advertisements included in the right to operate the

subway.

"The city could have brought an action in the Pallas case, but it didn't. Now, however, that the Pallas case was decided adversely to the city, it would seem as though the city ought in all justice to take similar steps to clear the subway, instead of leaving such action, with its burden of cost, to be done for it by one of its taxpayers." subway.

Mr. Garfield's Dangerous Proposals.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The tuation in the industrial world to-day, growng out of the operation of the laws governin corporations, may "amount to anarchy." proper relation between corporations and the State may have been lost to sight, and undoubt-edly advantage has been taken in some cases of lax regulations affecting incorporated companies; but the remedy proposed by Commissioner Garfield for the eyils that exist would bring about a condition much worse than that he desires to improve.

Concentrate such control as the States nov have over corporations engaged in interstate commerce in the hands of the Federal Government; require such reports and returns from these corporations as may be specified give to a Federal officer the power to cancel their franchises, even with the right of ju dicial review-and you put a weapon into the hands of one man, or a few men, which makes the power of the "Captains of Industry" look like a counterfeit quarter.

These proposals are not in the spirit of the Constitution, for if they are carried to their logical conclusion the Government will fix the prices of all products, regulate the rates common carriers, dictate the operation of manufacturing plants and the methods distribution. I believe that as a people we prefer to leave these matters to the decision of the men most interested. activities will be regulated by the natural laws of trade. Surely those men who have risen to commanding importance as bankers, manufacturers, wholesale and retail tradesmen and transportation managers are better keepers of the nation's prosperity than salaried Commissioner in Washington.

Other national Administrations are coming in whose absolute incorruptibility we may not have that unbounded confidence we have in the one in office to-day. In the hands of such Administrations the powers that Mr Garfield would confer upon the Federal Government would be most dangerous.

I do not believe the country will consent to such a concentration of power as Mr. Garfield Nevertheless, unwholesome proposals from the servants of the Governmen are unsettling and destroy confidence. can see no compensating advantage in them C. LAWRENCE PERKINS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.

The Mikado's Expenses.

From Success. The Emperor's yearly expense of living is limited For this purpose he traws \$3,000,000 from the na-tional treasury. His personal wealth is not to be spent on his own living, so that \$3,000,000 is really his yearly salary as manager of the country. He has got to pay out of it some thousand employees. The lady in waiting is said to be paid \$150 monthly. I have no doubt that even a washing girl is par about \$70. Japan is a country where a laborin man's wages are not more than 50 cents daily. The chief cook of the palace is paid \$200 a month

fectly satisfied, for breakfast, as a common Japa nese is, with a bowl of bean soup and a few sir dishes. But his dinner usually appears in spiendid style, in some twenty courses, although he always denounces it as a useless extravagance. Who any official feast is held—the cherry bloc ing party at the Kloshikawa botanical garden, or he chrysanthemum party at the Akasaka pale for instance—he will not spare any expense in pre paring an elegant European banquet. The Empress s the manager on such an occasion. She is a note omist. She always gives a hint to her court and the wives of the Ministers how to arrange their dresses and how to save expense.

Titles of Naval Staff Officers.

From the Engineering News.

Civil Engineer Peter C. Asserson, U. S. N., was retired from active service with the rank of Rear Admiral and the corresponding pay; but when he used the title of "Rear Admiral" upon his visiting card a line officer of similar grade protested to the NAVY Department that Mr. Asserso officer, was unauthorized to use a title that "be-longed only to officers of the navy empowered to secretary of the Navy. by directing Mr. Asserson not to use the title of Rear Admiral, either in official or personal correspondence, practically supports the contention of the line officer.

ports the contention of the line officer.

It is said that an effort is to be made in the next Congress to correct this anomaly by authorizing the staff officer to assume the corresponding line title. Could not the problem be solved by some appropriate affix to the more familiar and more appropriate and to the as Engineer Rear Admiral, Surgeon Rear Admiral, Pay Rear Admiral? There is already a precedent for such action in the case is already a where we now have Surgeon-Gen-or the army, where we now have Surgeon-Gen-eral. Paymaster-General and Quartermaster-Gen-eral. Some such law authorizing the use on all occasions of a distinctive and sufficiently honorable title would remove much friction

Dutch Language in South Africa.

From South Africa. The Dutch language does not seem now at a very jigh premium in the opinion of the heads of families in South Africa. A petition was recently presented to the board of management of the Kimberiey high schools in favor of the teaching of Dutch to the scholars attending those schools. In order to ascertain the views of those most conorder to asceriain the views of those most con-cerned, the toard sent out a circular to 444 parents, requesting those who were desirous of Dusch being taught during school hours as part of the ordinary curriculum to write to the board, stating their wish, Only 20, however, were anxious that Dutch should be so treated, and these 20 parents represented only 28 children out of a total of 775 attending the high schools.

Origin of the Table Round. King Arthur had just invented the round table. "You see." he explained, "Guinevere wants to kick the children under the table when there isn't

enough to go round."

WILL RESIST REDUCTION. Baldwin Starts in as Police Captain Under 1 1

Protest-One Inspector Less. Police Inspector or Captain Baldwin reported yesterday to Inspector P. H. McLaughlin, to take command of the Eighty-second precinct, Borough Hall, Brooklyn. He said that he intended to file a protest against his reduction.

"I believe the act of reducing me in rank is illegal," he said. "I was named to fill a vacancy caused by the retirement of Inspector Elias P. Clayton. I am satisfied that my promotion to an inspectorship was legal and I believe the courts will sus-

As a result of the Corporation Counsel's decision that Albertson and Baldwin never were inspectors, Commissioner McAdoo may reduce his force of inspectors to fifteen, the number at which it stood before the Aldermen added an extra one in order to make room for Grant when he was reinstated. The Commissioner has frequently stated that fifteen inspectors are sufficient to execute the business of the department. He has already taken steps, he announced yesterday, to ask the Aldermen not to allow a seventeenth, as he had asked in

order to provide for Cross.

"I have asked the Corporation Counsel if it is permissible for me to ask the Aldermen to do away with the sixteenth inspector-

men to do away with the sixtoenth map ahip," he said yesterday.

There was a lot of discussion yesterday concerning the eligible list that the Commissioner will receive from the Civil Service Commission, whether it will contain only the names of Albertson and Baldwin or The Commissioner said: "As I the names of Albertson and paid: "As I more. The Commissioner said: "As I understand it, a list has to contain at least three names, but I have no concern as to commission sends up. I only what the commission sends up. I only want an eligible list. I don't care whether these two are on or not, or whether more than these are on or not."

PRESIDENT'S SOUTHERN POLICY. He Tells Inquirers That He Has No Present Intention of Making Any Change.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.-The President has recently received many communications on the subject of building up a clean Republican party organization in some of the Southern States. Many Northern Congressmen have also received letters from former constituents who have emigrated to the South, inquiring as to the President's policy and expressing the hope that some-thing can be done toward establishing the Republican party in the South on a

better basis.

Representative S. W. Smith of Michigan has received some letters of this kind, and he called on the President to-day to discuss them. Some of the inquiries come from Mississippi and Alabama. Mr. Roosevelt told Mr. Smith that he had no present intention of making any change in his policy in these States, for he is satisfied with the men who are acting as his advisers in Mississippi and Alabama. As to his Southern policy generally, the President said, as he has said many times recently, that there will be no change. He will deal with Southern affairs just as he has dealt with them for the last three years, he declares. better basis.

Burlington Magazine for December. An unusually interesting number, both for

illustrations and for the text, is the issue for December of that admirable English art periodical, the Burlington Magazine, of which C. J. Holmes and Robert Dell are now the editors and Robert Grier Cooke the American publisher. The editorial contributions are a continuation of the interesting discussion on "Art as an National Asset," in which the intelligent patronage and guidance of the French Government is contrasted with the haphazard way in which things are done in England, and a suggestive note on what

art exhibitions are likely to be in the future. Mr. Cecil Smith gives a lucid and delightful description of another charming relic of Greek art, the beautiful bronze statuette of Hermes from Paramythia, near Jannina in Epirus, formerly in the Hawkins collection but now in the British Museum, which now sesses fourteen out of the nineteen objects found there over a century ago. The Hermes was hard to photograph on account of the brilliance of the patina, but the two reproductions show well enough the beauty of the model. Mr. Smith thinks that as it nearer in date than any other we have to the time of Phidias, it may well have been in-

spired by his statue. The description of Dr. Carvallo's collection of paintings at Paris by Léonce Amaudry is Here we have an account of the remarkable Spanish pictures, all of which re reproduced. There are two very fine Goyas, one the portrait of a man, amazing in character, where the artist seems to have tried to show what his art could do with as little paint as possible. He uses only three tones, black, white and red, and secures astonishing depth. The other, reproduced

in photogravure, is a picture of a bull fight, painted on tin two years before his death. There are two notable pictures by a Seville painter of the early nineteenth century who is beginning to become known. Eugenio Lucas, many of whose pictures have been sold in the past as Goyas. One represents extreme unction being administered to a man in the street, and is full of life; the other is a fine head of a toreador. Two Zurbarans figure in the collection. One, a Holy Family, is a noble example, and its interesting his tory is told in full; the other is called "Blessing a Spring." The collection includes pictures by Luiz de Morales, Luiz Tristan and an un-

known Venetian of the fifteenth century, all of which are shown in reproduction. Drawings can be reproduced with an almost exact fidelity to the originals that is impossible with paintings, and this adds to the value of the flustrations to Julia Cartwright's third article on Mr. J. S. Forbes's great collection of drawings by Jean François Millet. Eight of these, all characteristic, are reproduced. Mr. Lionel Cust gives an elaborate account of a triptych by Lucas Cranach which is among King Edward's pictures at Buckingham Palace, and which was obtained by the late Prince Albert. A good idea of the paintings is derived from the reproductions, which show the external panels as well

as the three internal pictures. The minor arts are by no means neglected. In this number's article on English furni-ture makers Mr. R. S. Clouston tells of Matthew Lock and his work; Mr. J. M. continues his account of the admirable Sheffield plate in the collection of Viscountess Wolseley, both articles being profusely illustrated, and Mr. John Hodgkin begins the story of "Transfer Printing on Pottery, with the biography of the inventor of the process, John Sadler.

Among the shorter articles, which are perhaps as interesting as any in the number, are notes on Florentine drawings at Berlin, in which Mr. Adolf von Beckerath takes issue with Mr. Bernard Berenson; a description of a miniature by François Clouet by Mr. Claude Phillips, and an account of paintings by John von Eyck and Albrecht Dürer, formerly in the Arundel collection, by Mr. W. H. James Weale

all fully illustrated. As usual, there are bibliographical and news otes, and a list of the principal exhibition in Europe for the month ahead. A valuable and instructive number.

The Impeachment of Judge Swayne. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Referring to THE SUN editorial this morning on the impeachment of Judge Swayne for collecting \$10 a day from the Treasury as his expenses, the maximum allowed by misdemeanor," and impeachable as such almost every official who does any travel service for the lovernment is impeachable. Possibly they mattemize their expense bills, as the Judge did not but that is easy enough, and legitimate enough seeing that the law specifies the sum that may be expended. And how about Congressmen collect ing mileage at 10 cents a mile and travelling ou passes? The law allows the mileage, but is the Congressman entitled to collect it if it does not cost

NEW YORK, Dec. 28. Preparation.

hat much to travel to and from his abode

Stella-Are you going to have Jack teach you -Yes, that's why I had him teach me to